

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides an improved process for the preparation of a  
5 agglomerated solid dosage form, comprising: (1) preparing an aqueous slurry of (a)  
microcrystalline cellulose; (b) a microcrystalline cellulose compressibility augmenting agent  
which (i) physically restricts the proximity of the interface between adjacent cellulose surfaces;  
(ii) inhibits interactions between adjacent cellulose surfaces, for example, via the creation of a  
10 hydrophobic boundary at cellulose surfaces; or (iii) accomplishes both (i) and (ii) above; and (c)  
an active agent; (2) thereafter drying the resultant aqueous slurry in a manner which inhibits quasi-  
hornification, thereby obtaining an agglomerated material which is directly compressible into a  
solid dosage form.